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LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE

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And they may have dealt an even more damaging
blow to the complacency of white South
Africa, already battered by months of militant
student protests and a wave of strikes by
Black workers.

As the ANC stated in a press release
following the attack, "the fires of freedom
are burning furiously and inextinguishably
inside the heartland of apartheid colonial
domination." Even more furiously and
inextinguishably than the flames that blazed
out of control for most of June 1 at Sasolburg
and the vast SASOL II plant under construction
by the U.S.-based Fluor Corporation at
Secunda.

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SOUTH KOREA

Dictatorship Restored-- The Failure of an Insurrection

by Avery Foxx
Liberation News Service

NEW YORK (LNS)-- After three weeks of increasing civil disorder which culminated in armed insurrection, "order reigns" in South Korea. Seven months after the assassination of Park Chung Hee, the snail-like movement towards "restoring democracy" in South Korea has halted. The government has imposed martial law-- through Decree number 10 which prohibits "political activity, a free press, free assembly, strikes, criticism, and rumors."

For 21 days in May, the government of South Korea faced its most serious challenge since the downfall of Syngman Rhee 20 years ago. So serious was the threat that troops were moved from the border with North Korea to quell rebellion. So ominous was the situation that the U.S. counseled discretion and privately expressed "displeasure" at the continued repression of civil liberties. Nevertheless, 40,000 U.S. troops and continuous U.S. aid, in effect assure the domination of a regime verging more and more toward the kind of military dictatorship the U.S. says it deplors.

WEEKS OF MOUNTING PROTEST

The unrest which led to mammoth demonstrations in Seoul and the taking over of Kwangju and Mokpo, two provincial centers, began in mid-March. Students in Seoul demanded that the government purge South Korea's universities of Park-appointed professors and administrators. The government chose to treat student protest as a "rite of spring," an annual flowering of protest that the authoritarian regime had successfully weathered for the last 20 years, since student demonstrations sparked the "April 19 Revolution" that toppled South Korean dictator Syngman Rhee.

The caretaker civilian government that took power after Park's assassination had promised to restore civil liberties and to move South Korea toward representative democracy. But as the tight rein of repressive rule lessened, the students pressed for more rapid change. In this, they were encouraged by their elders in the church and the democratic opposition.

The government, although partially civilian in composition, was and is held captive by younger generals, particularly Chon Too Huan. He commands both the much hated Korean Central Intelligence Agency and military intelligence. The South Korean government fell victim to its own propaganda. Students in Seoul and other cities continued to demonstrate, and insisted that change in the direction of "true, representative democracy" come about now in South Korea. And to press their point, they took to the streets, particularly in Seoul. To show how "democratic" it was, the government did not crack down on the students immediately.

On May 12, huge crowds of students blocked traffic and resisted efforts to break up their demonstrations. As the students' demonstrations grew, elder leaders in the church and democratic parties urged

restraint. The students pushed on, beguiled by the hope of reenacting the "heroic days of the April 19 Revolution."

The student protests gained momentum. And Kyu Ha Choi, the caretaker civilian president, sensing the strong undercurrent of popular support for the students, repeated that his government was intent upon restoring "constitutional rule." At the same time, he associated the opposition with the North Koreans. He charged that Kim Dae Jung, the most prominent democratic leader and serious contender for the presidency, was a deceiver of the students and a mouthpiece of North Korea. These charges of subversion merely echo those that were heard during the years of Kim's imprisonment during the last nine years of the Park dictatorship.

ARMY CRACKDOWN, MASS INSURRECTION

The army retaliated not with bullets but with tear gas, to drive the ever-approaching demonstrations from the center of Seoul and its government buildings. It turned to its spy networks and discovered when and where student leaders were to meet and plan further action. It arrested 50 people in a predawn raid on May 15, and thus, so the government thought, it nipped all challenge to its rule. Then on May 18, the government proceeded to arrest prominent leaders of all political dissent, particularly Kim Dae Jung.

The arrest kept Seoul quiet. Not Chonju, Taegu, Suwon, Inchon and particularly Kwangju. Within 24 hours, armed insurrection broke out in Kwangju. There the students and their supporters were able to capture weapons and vehicles, drive the police into hiding and force local troops to leave the city. Kwangju is the capital of South Cholla province-- a province distinguished by poverty and neglected by the central government, an area noted for political disputes, anger and readiness to organize and take risks. It is also the home province of Kim Dae Jung and the imprisoned poet Kim Chi Ha.

The arrest of Kim Dae Jung set off the insurrection. Obviously, the students had wide support among the people. For nine days, they held possession of their city, despite several hundred killed. The government then sent crack troops from the 38th parallel to that city. The army encircled it, attempted to negotiate with the students, and finally in a predawn surprise attack landed paratroopers in the center of Kwangju as the encircling army marched in and took over against sporadic and ill-organized resistance.

Yet, even the seizure of Kwangju didn't immediately stifle open resistance. In Mokpo, a nearby port, demonstrations continued. The government was quick to act and isolated the city. Two days later on May 30, all open opposition ended.

MILITARY STRONGMAN CONSOLIDATES RULE

The effort to topple dictatorship has been defeated once more. But this time it took arms. And in the Kwangju area at least, students did not stand alone, but spearheaded a massive popular uprising. Nevertheless, trade unions are weak; peasant organizations lack political leadership; the churches, although often valiant, vacillate; and democratic leadership continues to be divided. Little help is given by fulminations from North Korea. Still less help in

the fight for democracy in South Korea can come from a U.S. which finds itself committed to General Chon, who has seen fit to take his long-time mentor Park Chung Hee as a model.

To consolidate power, Chon has had Park's assassins executed; he has imprisoned Kim Jong Pil, Park's nephew, a former head of the KCIA often mentioned as a possible president. Chon has also eliminated most of the leaders of the ruling Democratic Republic Party. At 48, the young general Chon seems to have a bright future.

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WOMEN/LABOR

TESTIMONY COMPLETED IN SEATTLE TEST OF DISCRIMINATION BASED ON POLITICAL IDEOLOGY

"Thousands of people have rallied around my case, because they know that if you don't have free speech on the job, you don't have free speech at all."
Clara Fraser speaking at a May Day Forum '80.

NEW YORK (LNS)-- Testimony in the Clara Fraser vs. Seattle City Light case (see LNS packet #998) came to an end on May 27, and a decision is now expected by mid-July in the first formal hearing under that section of Seattle's Fair Employment Practices Ordinance that provides for freedom from job discrimination on the basis of political ideology.

During his testimony before the panel in late April, former City Light superintendent Gordon Vickery testified that Fraser's firing from City Light was "a case of lack of ability." He called her a radical, defining the term as someone "who expresses ideas that are unacceptable to management."

Fraser and her supporters hastened to agree with the man they called "City Light's paramilitary ex-superintendent." She was bound to carry out management directives on the job, Fraser explained. But "I expected the right to be able to express my opinions on what happens there. I and all the other workers did just that. But I was the only one singled out for special treatment and terminated-- because I'm a socialist, a radical and a feminist, not because I expressed any more criticism than anyone else."

Under cross-examination by Fraser's attorney, John Chen Beckwith, Carol Coe, City Light Director of Administrative Services admitted that Fraser would have been fired, budget cuts or no. She'd really been fired, said Coe, to protect the integrity of her files. When asked what that meant, Coe said that desks had been broken into, including her own and even Superintendent Vickery's. Coe, knowing the law, and knowing she had no evidence whatsoever to link Fraser or any other individual to the break-ins, did not resort to calling Fraser a thief. She just said she fired her "to protect the integrity of files."

These and other slanderous attacks are not new to Fraser, who taught City Light attorney Cloud and everyone else in the hearing room some history during her testimony: "As a socialist, I believe in the cheapest electricity possible. Why, socialists organized City Light! A public utility in which the people own the power and control its generation and distribution is a socialist concept. Socialists

were key movers in the drive for public ownership of utilities; they did it with Tacoma City Light, and then put tremendous pressure on the Seattle City Council to establish Seattle City Light." No more questions.

GRASSROOTS SUPPORT STILL GROWING

Within the last two months 70 new endorsers have joined the ranks of Fraser's supporters. Among the new endorsers are the Multnomah County Labor Council AFL-CIO, Portland, Oregon; AFSCME Local #189, Portland (which represents city clerical, water bureau, radio emergency, public record clerks); Oregon Federation of Teachers, Executive Council, Portland; International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers, Chapter 17 (City of Seattle engineers and office workers); Inlandboatman's Union of the Pacific, Puget Sound Region; Boilermakers Local #104, Seattle; Teamsters Local #174, Seattle; Service Employees International Union Local #390, San Francisco; Seattle NOW, and Workers World Party. Due to the nature of this case, public employee unions are especially prominent among the labor support.

Another measure of the breadth of support and publicity generated for Fraser came when she was asked to endorse ex-Republican John Anderson's presidential campaign. Fraser graciously declined, saying, "I'm a socialist, you know, and I don't support Democrats and Republicans. But thanks for asking me!"

Asked how she felt about the long and bitter fight since she was fired by Seattle City Light in July of 1975, Fraser answered, "I feel lucky. I don't know of any bigger luxury on the face of this earth than the freedom to speak your mind. I wish I could convince people of that. There's no greater thrill than to be able to say what you think without being afraid of the consequences. Most people don't know how to do that anymore. Most people change their thinking, because they are always looking over their shoulders; the boss might hear, or the neighbors, or the FBI, or whatever. But if you're a convinced radical, and a working radical, you stop worrying about this."

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FRANCE

DEATH OF A DEMONSTRATOR SPURS PROTESTS AGAINST "ANTI-FOREIGN" RULINGS

by Schofield Coryell
Liberation News Service

PARIS (LNS) -- Riot police are patrolling this city's famous Latin Quarter, and the area surrounding Jussieu University has assumed the air of a zone under military occupation following months of escalating student protests against "anti-foreigner" laws enacted by the French government. The heavily-armed riot forces were called in at the end of May after a clash between demonstrators and police resulted in the death of Alain Bégard, a 32-year-old unemployed baker.

Bégard had come in from outside to join the embattled students during a May 13 demonstration and share in their excitement and comradeship. Desperately trying to escape club-swinging police who were rampaging through the campus, he crashed through a flimsy roof, broke his neck and skull, and died, more...

writhing in agony.

The next day, more than 20,000 people marched through the streets of Paris to condemn the killings under the joint sponsorship of all the University student, teacher and worker organizations and unions. The students are planning more strikes and demonstrations calling for an end to the discriminatory laws that sparked the initial protests.

As has happened in the United States, economic difficulties at home and Third World pressures for a "new economic order" abroad have fueled French hostility against "foreigners." Workers from southern Europe, Turkey and North Africa who have traditionally filled many of the economy's less desirable jobs have come under legal and physical attacks. And this spring the government enacted a series of measures designed to weed out foreign students from the French universities.

The new rules set up rigid economic and political criteria for foreigners wishing to study in France. First, they must show a substantial bank account; and second, they cannot be considered "political opponents" of the government in their home countries. The application of such rules, officially justified by reasons of "economy" in a period of hard times and rising unemployment, would keep the doors open exclusively to foreign students duly certified as wealthy and conformist. These economic and political criteria have been supplemented by another section of the law requiring foreign students to pass a French language examination.

Since these measures were announced, students have organized protests in universities throughout the country. The actions were particularly well organized and intense in Grenoble in the Alps, in Rennes to the West, and in the industrial center of Lyon. Although only a small percentage of students participated in the marches and demonstrations, their tactics were dramatic and radical. In some places, university presidents were seized, and in many spots police cars were burned when the cops were called in to "restore order."

Finally, the movement spread to Paris and was just beginning slowly to gather momentum when Begrand was killed. Just a few days earlier, thousands of students from all over the country had gathered on the Jussieu campus to coordinate their opposition to the xenophobic rulings. And in the aftermath of the killing, the momentum of protests seemed certain to increase.

So, unfortunately, did the momentum of government repression. As riot police took up positions in the Latin Quarter, reports filtered in that isolated youths were being seized for no apparent reason, beaten and whisked off to the police station.

The likelihood of further violent clashes was increased by another important aspect of the University situation-- the presence of the so-called "autonomous groups." A relatively new movement in France, the groups consist of rebellious young people who believe in "tough, direct action" with a view to disrupting the smooth bureaucratic functioning of the society which excludes them. Some are students, many simply unemployed. Frequently, they smash university computers and typewriters. Most students don't particularly like such tactics, but abstain from taking actions against the autono-

mists which would place them in the role of cops. Meanwhile, the police themselves frequently invoke the autonomists' role as an excuse to intervene with ferocity against the students.

Such intervention apparently enjoys the support of a government whose stance has been obstinate to the point of insult. For example, Prime Minister Raymond Barre justified the discriminatory laws against foreign students of the grounds that they are "troublemakers" and "undesirable in their own country." Barre concluded by declaring that he did not intend to let French universities become a "dumping ground" for such "misfits."

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LABOR/BLACKS/WOMEN

LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI MARCH UNITES CIVIL RIGHTS, LABOR AND WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

NEW YORK (LNS)-- In the wake of a march that brought more than 3,000 people from all over the South to Laurel, Mississippi on May 17, organizers are hailing not only the support shown for 200 striking poultry workers but the emergence of "a powerful and historic new coalition." The Committee for Justice in Mississippi called for the march back in February, when workers at the Sanderson Farms chicken processing plant had already been walking a picket line for more than a year. And the organizers were clearly delighted by the response, as measured both by the turnout for the march and by endorsements from leaders of 175 national organizations and from 67 Mississippi-based groups and prominent individuals.

"We have brought together the coalition that people have been hoping for throughout the decade of the 1970's," said Frank D. Martino, president of the International Chemical Workers Union (ICWU), which represents the striking Sanderson workers and initiated the Committee for Justice. "We have united labor, civil rights, women's and church groups, and we don't think anybody or anything can stop us now."

The Sanderson workers, most of whom are Black women, struck against minimum-wage-level pay and what they called "15th-century working conditions," saying they were treated like "slaves on a plantation." The Sanderson management has refused to bargain and unfair labor charges are pending before the National Labor Relations Board.

Picket signs bearing the names of many local unions from across the South dominated the scene behind the lead banner. Among the unions represented were Furniture Workers, United Auto Workers, International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers, Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers, AFSCME, Paintmakers, Bakery and Confectionary Workers, Steelworkers, Sheetmetal Workers, Seafarers International Union, Operating Engineers, Teamsters, Communications Workers, and locals of the Chemical Workers Union from nine states. A large banner proclaimed the presence of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists.

Civil rights and community groups represented included the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the United League of Mississippi, NAACP

branches, the Equal Rights Congress, Southern Organizing Committee for Economic and Social Justice, Southern Conference Educational Fund, Welfare Rights Organization, National Lawyers Guild, National Anti-Racist Organizing Committee, Minority People's Council of Alabama, and many others. The National Organization for Women had mobilized its people in Mississippi and Alabama; Women for Racial and Economic Equality sent delegations. Local ministerial associations and clergy from most southern states were out in force.

Local white union leaders were among the marchers, and according to Joe Goodman of the Committee for Justice, "Wherever we went, in stores and businesses, white people, especially clerical people, people who work for a living, were very responsive."

"The march can't be viewed as an end-all," continued Goodman. The workers have formed a strategy committee. Now they are organizing a boycott of Sanderson chickens, which sell under the brand-names of Miss Goldy and Southern Beauty.

"We are doing something historic here," Goodman told LNS. "Can a union walk out and expect to win? It's not that simple. Industry is united with the local power structure. It's not a question of this plant or that plant going out on strike. It's a question of bringing together a coalition of unions, Blacks and women to develop a strategy for winning. We're optimistic that we are going to win."

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THE SOUTH/ANTI-KLAN

KLAN-NAZI MEMBERS GO ON TRIAL FOR GREENSBORO MURDERS OF CWP 5

by Patricia MacKay
Liberation News Service

GREENSBORO, N.C. (LNS)-- At 9:00 a.m. on June 16, the first 100 potential jurors in a pool of 1,000 are due to report to room 3C of the Guilford County Superior Court House. And the murder-riot trial of six Klansmen and Nazis indicted for killing five Communist Workers Party (CWP) members at an anti-Klan rally last November will get underway. The six defendants face possible execution or life imprisonment on felon murder charges and five year prison terms if convicted of felony riot. Eight other Klan-Nazi members are scheduled to be tried on similar charges after the first case has been completed.

All of the 14 Klan-Nazi defendants were arrested near the scene, shortly after an attack by 35 armed men left four anti-Klan demonstrators lying dead in the street outside the Morningside Homes Federal Housing Project, one other dying and 10 wounded. At their arraignment two days later on charges of murder and conspiracy to commit murder, the defendants sang "Onward Christian Soldiers" and "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

UNINDICTED CONSPIRATORS

Even before the trial opened, a series of actions by the police, by the grand jury that issued the indictments, by judge James M. Long and by the district attorney had fueled charges that less than vigorous prosecution might allow the men responsible for the murders to get off scott free or with

light sentences.

For starters, most of the men who rode in the Klan-Nazi car caravan on November 3 were never even arrested. The police and FBI have identified and questioned almost all of the 35 Klan and Nazi members who took part. But for reasons known only to them, they chose to seek indictments against only 14.

Rayford Milano Caudle, for instance, has been identified as one of the 35 in the car caravan, as the owner of a car which contained one of the arsenals of weapons, and also as the owner of many of the guns used. He was originally charged with conspiracy to commit murder, but later released with no charges.

Virgil Griffin, leader of the Imperial Knights of the KKK unit that organized the caravan, was another of the 35. Griffin disappeared after the rally and turned himself in to the FBI on November 11. He was released with no charges.

If there were any good reasons for Griffin's release, they evidently did not include repentance for his actions. Just two months later, on January 17, he was arrested for burning a cross at the home of a Black family. Police confiscated an automatic rifle and sawed-off shotgun from him at the scene. He was charged with reckless driving and aiding and abetting in a cross-burning and released on \$5,000 bond.

And then there is Harold Covington, head of the North Carolina Nazi Party. Not only has Covington not been charged, but he won considerable support as a candidate to become the state's top law enforcement officer. Although not himself identified as one of those at the scene of the attack, Covington gave his followers permission to attend the November 3 rally, and has been raising money for the defendants. Running in the Republican primary for the nomination for state Attorney General, Covington finished a strong second with 56,000 votes, 43 percent of the total.

THE CONSPIRACY THAT WASN'T

While failing to bring any indictments against most of the men who rode in the Klan-Nazi caravan, the prosecution has also dropped conspiracy charges against those who will go to trial.

Critics of this move contend that the evidence of conspiracy appeared fairly compelling... and also offered the best hope of winning convictions without having to pin a particular death to a particular shot fired by a particular person. They point to three basic facts to support conspiracy charges:

(1) An arsenal of weapons was found at the scene when defendants were arrested;

(2) The Klan and Nazis had joined forces in a self-styled "United Racist Front" in order to confront the anti-Klan demonstrators; and

(3) According to the Charlotte Observer and informed secret sources in the Klan, there were at least three meetings prior to November 3 to plan the confrontation. The first known discussion took place at a Klan parade and recruitment drive at the Lincoln County Courthouse on October 20. It was followed up by a second meeting at a cross burning on the Lincoln County fairgrounds on October 28. Finally, on November 2, at a remote service station parking lot, Virgil Griffin urged 14 Klan-Nazi members to mount a show of force at the CWP anti-Klan rally the next day.

Drooping the conspiracy charges not only in-

creases the likelihood that some of the indicted Klansmen will get off. It also cuts off lines of evidence that might support charges of collusion between the police, FBI, government, Klan and Nazis in the killings of the Communist Workers Party members, known as the CWP 5.

The CWP has argued strenuously that it was the target of such a conspiracy. And several facts have surfaced to lend substance to its charges.

It has been revealed that through an informant, the police knew the Klan-Nazi planned to go to the November 3rd rally armed. Furthermore, a police surveillance car actually followed the Klan-Nazi car caravan through Greensboro and watched the killings from a block away. They made no attempt to stop the assault, and allowed eight of the nine carloads of Klan-Nazis to escape.

Despite the fact that carrying arms openly in North Carolina is legal, the City of Greensboro barred the anti-Klan demonstrators from carrying weapons on November 3. At the same time, police gave a copy of the CWP parade permit to "a known Klansman." The permit detailed march and rally plans and the fact that demonstrators were supposed to be unarmed. Finally, the CWP points out, the five victims were all CWP leaders and died from precise shots to the head or heart, suggesting that they were targets purposely selected from the more than 75 anti-Klan demonstrators.

100 YEARS OF CONSPIRACY

Beyond the events of November 3 lies ample evidence that membership in the Klan amounts by definition to a conspiracy to deprive Black people of their civil and human rights. Since it led the bloody campaign to drive Blacks out of post-Civil War Reconstruction governments in the South, the Klan has had its ups and downs. But it has remained steadfast in its racist principles. And, recently, after hitting a membership low of an estimated 8,000 people nationwide in 1978, the Klan has been increasingly active and visible. It is now estimated to have more than 10,000 active members with many times that number of sympathizers.

The Klan has grown more in the South than in the North, and its members are younger than in the past. It is specifically targeting soldiers, veterans and school-age children for recruitment. At the same time, the Klan is growing more political. It plans to send delegates to the 1980 Democratic National Convention, and one California Klan leader won the Democratic nomination for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives in the June 3 primary.

But that does not mean it has abandoned its old tactics of terror and murder. On April 21, for example, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, four Black women were shot by three Klansmen. And on the same day, in Wrightsville, Ga, a nine-year-old Black girl was seriously wounded when Klan members opened fire on her house, following a cross-burning nearby. (See LNS #989).

AN APOLITICAL TRIAL?

None of this history of the Klan's origins and recent actions is likely to be heard inside Judge James Long's courtroom, however. District Attorney Mike Schlosser insists that the politics of the Klan and Nazis will not be a factor in the trials and that

the case will be prosecuted without venturing into the purported ideologies of the defendants and their victims.

Judge Long has denied a motion by Signe Waller, calling for the appointment of a special prosecutor. And Schlosser, the only person who has the standing to raise such a motion, has declined to do so. He explained that "it would turn the trial into an ideological forum, a political showcase and encourage vindictive prosecution."

Because all six defendants have been declared indigent, they are represented by court-appointed private counsel. All of their lawyers practice criminal law in Guilford County and are known professionally by the District Attorney. In fact, Roy Clinton Toney, one of the other Klan-Nazi defendants whose case has been continued, is being represented by Steve Schlosser, the District Attorney's cousin.

The defense apparently intends to argue that the Klan-Nazi members were exercising their First Amendment rights of free speech and assembly when they were attacked with fists and sticks and that they only fired their guns in self-defense. But Judge Long has already ruled in a Finding of Fact that the first shot was fired by someone in the Klan-Nazi car caravan.

Defense attorneys have also contended that Schlosser is engaging in "selective prosecution" by charging only members of the Klan and Nazis with murder. But Judge Long denied a motion based on that argument that the defendants were being denied equal protection of the law and due process. And Schlosser insists that the defendants were selected for prosecution because they were arrested at the scene with guns and that eyewitnesses and T.V. pictures saw them firing guns at the victims.

Four T.V. stations have video tapes of the November 3 killings, all of which have been subpoenaed by the defense and prosecution and viewed in slow motion. Despite such powerful evidence, however, the trial is expected to drag on in slow motion itself. It may take as much as six months for the D.A. to call up to 90 witnesses and the defense another 35. In the meantime, all of the defendants are out on bail, walking free.

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SOUTH AFRICA

"THE FIRES OF FREEDOM" ARE BURNING IN SOUTH AFRICA

NEW YORK (LNS)-- The columns of smoke were visible from the streets of downtown Johannesburg June 1. And so apparently was the writing on the wall. "South Africa has entered a state of revolutionary war," editorialized the country's most prominent newspaper, the Rand Daily Mail.

In their most spectacularly successful operation to date, guerrillas of Umkonto We Sizwe, military wing of the banned African National Congress of South Africa, managed to infiltrate and dynamite South Africa's strategic and heavily-guarded oil-from-coal conversion plants at Sasolburg and Secunda. The bomb blasts sent an estimated \$7 million in fuel and equipment up in smoke. (CONT. INSIDE FRONT)

GUATEMALA

REPRESSION OF GUATEMALAN COCA-COLA WORKERS SPARKS INTERNATIONAL BOYCOTT

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Marlon Mendizibal, the Embotelladora, Guatemala, union leader, was a natural target for the right wing terrorists who operate in that Central American country. All he needed to get his name on a series of death lists was the support of the Coca-Cola workers. And the constant fear among them that he would be killed was translated into sadness and silent anger on May 27 when Mendizibal was machine-gunned to death just outside the factory.

While Coke's predominantly North American management has been locked in negotiations with the four-year-old union, the mysterious killing of labor union leaders is on the rise. Mendizibal was the fourth union leader murdered in less than a month, following the deaths of Arnulfo Gomez, Rene Rodriguez and Ricardo Garcia. The message for workers, according to exiled trade union leader Israel Marquez, is that they won't live long enough to enjoy the benefits of a second contract. Yet a recent company survey indicates that workers are still united in their resistance with 90 percent still solidly backing the union.

Gomez and Rodriguez disappeared from their homes on May 1. Their bodies, showing obvious signs of torture, were discovered later, dumped by a roadside outside of Guatemala City where the bottling plant is located. Garcia died of gunshot wounds. Another victim of the unidentified kidnapers, Ponciano de Jesus, is still missing.

Aside from such "extra-curricular" repression, the union reports, a 16-man specialized military unit from the army's top command was recently called in to replace the factory's eight-man police force. Some see the presense of the soldiers, who are equipped with bullet-proof vests, double-plated helmets, and high-powered, Israeli-made machine guns, as a symbol of the government's co-sponsorship of the repression at the Coke franchise.

The union struggle at the Embotelladora dates back to 1954, the year generals trained by the CIA invaded and overthrew the government of Jacobo Arbenz. The coup quickly stifled union activity along with the country's first program of land reform which had threatened United Fruit's vast holdings.

Fourteen years later, an attempt to revive the union was put down again when leader Cesar Barillas disappeared. It was later revealed that he had been tortured to death. Not until February 1978, with backing from the National Confederation of Workers (CNT) and the newly formed National Committee for Trade Union Unity (CNUS), was a third union drive finally able to wring a first contract out of Coca-Cola. But not before the company unleashed a reign of terror in which 152 workers lost their jobs.

But the agreement didn't stop the anti-union

crusade of the right wing death squads. As Congressman Don Pease wrote to President Carter last September, "... for more than four years the workers at the Coca-Cola EGSA (Embotelladora, Guatemala, South America) have been subjected to an unmercifully ruthless campaign of intimidation and terror orchestrated by the plant management and its American owner, John Clinton Trotter." And while Guatemala's dictator Romero Lucas Garcia and Coke's management both voice public disapproval of the violent incidents, the union charged in March that Trotter and his staff "are the intellectual and material authors of the repression suffered by the workers of Coca-Cola." Israel Marquez states further that "the story that the death squads operate independently of the government is one for international consumption only."

Recently two such groups have claimed responsibility for circulating a death list which includes every member of the union's executive committee and for painting a skull and cross bones on the front door of a union lawyer's home. The Secret Anti-Communist league is credited with the murder of Manuel Lopez Balan, a union leader whose body was discovered with the throat slashed from ear to ear in April 1979.

Meanwhile, Coca-Cola headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia maintains that company policy doesn't permit U.S. corporate officials to interfere in the affairs of its privately managed bottling companies. According to advertisements: "Typically, the bottler of Coca-Cola is a cornerstone of his community and a citizen who helps enrich community life in a variety of ways. So, local ownership, wherever possible is at the foundation of our company's commitment to improve the quality of life."

But as the events that have prompted Guatemalans to call the world's largest selling soft drink "La Cuista de la Muerte" (the drink of death) became known, union activists around the world have begun to pressure Coke to rescind its Guatemalan franchise. A boycott by the International Food and Allied Workers linking 160 member unions in 58 countries could prove to be more than the company can handle. In just two months workers from seven countries have organized against the transcontinental franchise. In the Scandinavian countries an active boycott began in April. In Denmark the Union of Hotel and Restaurant Workers suspended the sale of Coca-Cola until it successfully forced the Swedish subsidiary to pressure Coke International's office in Atlanta, threatening to repeat the boycott if Coke didn't respond to their demands. In Norway, a major consumer boycott is being planned, accompanied by a large publicity campaign. In Finland, youth clubs are planning a massive consumer boycott which is to be accompanied by a three-day production boycott by the Food Workers Federation.

In Australia, workers intend to suspend the production of plastic Coke bottles. In New Zealand, workers are discussing a production boycott of Coke products. In Spain, the Federation of Food and Hotel Workers began a ten-day sale and consumer boycott on May 1, and intend to organize an information campaign inside their factories. In Mexico, the union of soft drink workers suspended production of Coke products

for several days beginning April 24.

But one Canadian unionist says he would like to leave Coke with an alternative to quitting Guatemala---selling the plant to an operator who will negotiate collective agreements. "Such a victory," he explained, "would help to raise the spirits of the Guatemalan labor movement which is asking people outside to exert all possible pressure on the regime."

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Thanks to the Latin American and Caribbean Labour Report for much of this information. For background information on Guatemala see LNS packet #954.

PUERTO RICO/POLITICAL PRISONERS

MARIA HAYDEE TORRES CONVICTED OF BOMBING FOR PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE

NEW YORK (LNS) -- "I, Maria Haydee Torres, am a Puerto Rican prisoner of war. I am a product of this continuous struggle waged by my people. I am the conscience of my people, in arms. And like a captured prisoner of war, neither this court, or this country has any right to treat me like a criminal..." -- Maria Haydee Torres, May 19, 1980

All along she refused to recognize the jurisdiction of the federal court but on May 29, Maria Haydee Torres, the 24-year-old Puerto Rican nationalist, was sentenced to life imprisonment for her involvement in a 1977 blast at the Mobil Oil Building New York City that killed one. Identified by fingerprints uncovered in an investigation by the FBI, Torres is the single suspect in one of five related bombings that occurred on August 3, 1977. The only other evidence in the case is the communique issued by the Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN), alleging that the blasts, costing city businesses more than \$5 million, "were a part of our campaign to dramatize and intensify our struggle for the independence of Puerto Rico, and the unconditional freedom of the five Puerto Rican nationalists."

The five nationalists referred to in that statement all served more than 20 years in prison for taking part in attacks on President Truman's residence and the U.S. Congress after U.S. troops crushed a 1950 uprising that had proclaimed the Second Republic of Puerto Rico. Finally released from prison last September, three of the five, Oscar Collazo, Irvin Flores, and Lolita Lebron, joined a crowd of 300 that rallied outside the Foley Square courthouse in support of Torres. Another 200 filled the courtroom with noisy chants in honor of the 10 other alleged FALN members facing lesser charges in Chicago, and the sound of the Puerto Rican national anthem. But when Torres turned her back on the judge in order to address them, she was dragged from the courtroom. For the rest of the trial, she was kept isolated in a small room where the proceedings were broadcast over a loudspeaker.

Not one person of Puerto Rican descent served on the jury, with the only such candidate eliminated days before by a prosecutor's challenge. It took only four hours to decide to impose the maximum penalty of life imprisonment. That sentence will be

reviewed on July 2, with an attorney appointed over Torres' objections, launching the final defense argument. The hearing, Torres told LIBERTAD, the newspaper of the National Committee to Free Puerto Rican Prisoners of War, is being held only "for the purpose of allowing the judge to wash his hands clean." But she said that she will attend the hearing in order to show people that she is not intimidated by "an illegal trial, an illegal sentence. And this new circus is also illegal." Torres is still refusing to cooperate with the state-appointed lawyer.

Following are excerpts from prepared statement Torres was not allowed to deliver in the courtroom. It is addressed "To My Beloved Compatriots:

"Here I am before you today, brought here to this court without my consent. At present both I and my companeros find ourselves imprisoned in the jails of our enemies. As Puerto Rican Prisoners of War we demand that they take us to a military camp, or to a neutral country, there to await the resolution of the case of Puerto Rico and ours after we are heard by an international tribunal. International Law gives us these rights.

"But, as you can well see, this country rejects international law. Each day that we are kept in prison, and Puerto Rico is kept imprisoned by United States colonialism, they violate international law. Apparently, the U.S. believes itself superior to the international community.

"We, the Puerto Rican people, have taken steps to end these violations. We have decided we have had enough of human oppression. We have put an end to the abuse and betrayals which have imprisoned our country for 82 years. There are laws, yes; those which demand of the United States that it cease to violate the rights of Puerto Ricans to be a nation, free and independent. The United Nations has affirmed and reaffirmed the Puerto Ricans reality--that Puerto Rico is a colony of the United States, and that a colonized people who live the reality of being a colony, has both the obligation and the right to struggle against that illegality and human injustice.

"As a result of the yanki invasion, we Puerto Ricans see that 95 percent of our country people are unemployed, and 45 percent of those who are industrial workers. Aside from having over 70 percent of our people dependent on food stamps doled out by the yanki government (a good way of keeping our necks inside a noose) our people can have little economic hope. While our people suffer, we see that 60 percent of our land is in the hands of North American corporations, with the single purpose of devouring our natural resources. To this we must add that 80 percent of the entire production of Puerto Rico is controlled by North American capital. Another 13 percent of our land is in the hands of the U.S. Armed Forces. Thus can we understand the forced migration of our people to this country; forced by the conditions created by their exploitation and continuous presence in Puerto Rico.

"My fellow patriots, I ask you to continue to struggle daily. A free and struggling spirit cannot be broken. We need each other, and I feel happy and proud to know that our people continue to struggle. Because both I and my companeros will not cease our struggle for an instant. This country does not know how to combat the revolutionary spirit of a people in arms. Until Victory, my people; In Struggle, Maria Haydee Torres
Puerto Rican Prisoner of War in the U.S."

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INDIA/WOMEN

RAPE BY POLICE OK'D BY INDIA'S SUPREME COURT

NEW YORK (LNS) -- The battle against rape has become a major rallying cry of India's growing women's movement following a recent Supreme Court decision acquitting two policemen who had been convicted by a lower court in the rape of a 16-year-old woman while she was in police custody eight years ago. The policemen had admitted to having had sex with the woman, Mathura; but the Supreme Court held that sexual assault in police custody did not constitute rape.

Mathura came from a low-caste peasant family and at the time of the assault was living with a young man named Ashok, her employer's nephew. On March 26, 1972, Mathura's brother Gama, also a laborer, complained that Mathura, a minor, had been kidnapped by her employers and Ashok. Gama, Ashok, Mathura and her employers were brought to the police station at about 9PM for questioning. When everyone started leaving an hour and a half later, Constable Ganpat grabbed Mathura and ordered everyone else to leave. Mathura was first raped by Ganpat and then molested by head constable Tukaram, who was reportedly too drunk to rape her.

Mathura finally managed to get out and tell her brother and friends, waiting outside, what had happened. Soon an angry crowd gathered and threatened to beat up Ganpat and burn down the police station. The two constables were tried but acquitted of the rape charge by the Sessions Court. This did not come as a surprise because assaults on lower castes and poor people inside police stations are common. The decision in Mathura's case seemed to be particularly influenced by the fact that she was living with someone without being married. The judge concluded that it was quite likely that such a "girl" would willingly "surrender her body to a police constable," in his words.

The Bombay High Court reversed the decision of the Sessions Court and sentenced Ganpat and Tukram to imprisonment of five years and one year respectively. They then went to the Supreme Court, which reversed the High Court verdict by focusing on one section of the rape law and interpreting it to give free license to policemen.

Following the acquittal, women's organizations across India took up the issue and organized mass demonstrations in a concerted effort to build an intensive campaign against rape. Mathura's supporters attempted to point out that there is no such thing as establishing resistance inside a police station. The Court commented: "It would be preposterous to suggest that although she was in the company of her brother, she would be so overawed by the fact of the appellants (the policemen) being persons in authority and that she was in the police station, that she would make no attempt to resist." The fact that rape of poor peasant women by landlords and by the police is a rather common occurrence adds to the implications of the Supreme Court judgment.

In Delhi, women's groups launched a week-long

program of protest culminating in a mass rally and demonstration on March 8, 1980, International Women's Day. This campaign included the presentation of a memorandum to the Prime Minister, the Home Minister and the Police Commissioner, a seminar on the question of rape, a press conference and the performance of a number of short street plays in colleges, hospitals and resettlement colonies. But these efforts to evoke public sympathy and consciousness about the sexual harassment of women failed to sway the Supreme Court, which rejected demands for reopening the case.

Writing for Alternative News and Features, a monthly news service published in New Delhi, Monica Juneja observed that in Mathura's case, as in others, "the notable feature is the attempt on the part of the government to justify the actions of its officers by proving that the women were of 'loose moral character.' Linked inextricably with the power structure, rape is used as an instrument to suppress democratic struggles, especially in the rural areas. The hope lies in women building their own organizations to spearhead struggles for their rights."

According to Juneja, the coordination and cooperation between various women's groups in the campaign surrounding Mathura's case is a definite advance for the women's movement in India.

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ANTI-NUCLEAR

MEMORIAL DAY ACTION AT SEABROOK

NEW YORK (LNS) -- According to Curtis Andrew Beckwith of the Clamshell Alliance, 1,300 to 1,700 people participated in the occupation and blockading attempt at the nuclear reactor construction site in Seabrook, New Hampshire over the Memorial Day weekend. The action, organized by the Boston based Coalition for Direct Action at Seabrook (CDAS), was attended by more than 500 representatives from the media. An estimated 800 troops were on hand including state troopers from New Hampshire, Maine, Rhode Island and Massachusetts; New Hampshire Air Guardsmen and Army National Guardsmen were also on hand as well as the local Seabrook police.

The main tactic used by the CDAS was engaging the police in short confrontations around the fence surrounding the construction site and along U.S. Route 1, between the plant's north and south gates.

Billy Conwell, a spokesperson in Seabrook, said that the occupation was unsuccessful; he added that the police were more violent than in the past, that there were more serious injuries including skull fractures and a broken arm. Beckwith agreed with these observations saying that the police were "using dispersal tactics in an offensive manner. It was an expected intensity," he said, because "they're trying to show us that they don't want us to do this." (More than 30 people were injured and at least 38 were arrested.)

A woman who participated in the action came away with the impression that "direct action is not possible at this time because there aren't enough people to do

it." She suggested it might take another major nuclear accident to motivate people.

Approximately 75 people stayed on after the action camping in a pine forest near Seabrook and doing community outreach. More supporters were expected to join them before their camping permit expires on July 4th.

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ANTI-NUCLEAR

THE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND PROTEST AT SEABROOK, N.H., AN ACCOUNT

by Werner Wille
Liberation News Service

SEABROOK, N.H. (LNS) -- Editor's note: German journalist Wille Werner attended the recent Seabrook action. Following is his firsthand account of what happened there.

FRIDAY, MAY 23

Because no transportation had been arranged from New York City to Seabrook I decided to hitchhike; it took only three rides to get there. The third driver came out of the Seabrook area and was happy to have a rider who would be involved in the demonstration. He told me that the population there is divided between supporters and opponents of nuclear power, but that opposition has increased since Harrisburg. And now that there is more information available the fishermen are feeling afraid of its effect on their livelihood (the warm water produced by the plant will drive the fish away). It was late afternoon when I arrived in Seabrook, New Hampshire.

Seabrook is a typical resort town with its amusement halls, fish and chips restaurants, apartment houses and salty air; an atmosphere you can find in coastal towns all over the world. The mainstream of weekend tourists were expected on Saturday, so many apartments were still empty. It was very quiet.

Nearby, the nuclear plant rose from the marshes; it looked very strange in contrast to the resort atmosphere. The construction cranes stretched upward in the dark purple sky, their red warning lights sparkling. Here, on the streets to the camps of nuclear opponents, there was not a single sign of the coming occupation weekend. No graffiti on the walls, no posters, no hippies. The picture postcard atmosphere of Seabrook would have been perfect if there weren't this ugly construction in the background.

It was completely dark when I got to the first camp. Bob, a reporter from a free radio station introduced me to what was going on. The different regions of the USA, people from the East and West Coasts, from the Northern and Southern states, lived in their own camps. Coming from New York, it was best for me to go with the East Coast people to a camp called Freestate.

The word "Freestate" is familiar to me from Germany where it means excluded from the German state, but in a positive way.

After a walk through the forest I entered Freestate. Here were people who had been preparing for six weeks for this weekend and the upcoming summer months. At the campfire I found a sort of German colony, a group of German draft resisters working on U.S. social projects. Together with six other people from Washington, D.C. and Boston they formed an affinity group. They called themselves "Strawberries & Cream," others gave themselves names like "The Fed-Ups" or "Cost of Freedom." I was integrated into the group immediately.

SATURDAY, MAY 24

After the breakfast that was served at the central campfire (oats and yogurt) our affinity group got together to talk about the actions that day. We had planned to be blockaders, but most of us wanted to occupy instead. We decided to join the cluster planning to occupy and we brought our decision to them. We were engaged in intense discussion when suddenly a man appeared with a thick package of papers over his arm and started a monologue about imperialism and the working class struggle. In Germany we call these people "K groups", K for communist. We told him to leave us alone.

Our group was well prepared for an occupying action; homemade grappling hooks, gas masks, lemon juice and water cannisters -- we even had yellow arm bands for easy recognition in case of panic. Some affinity groups passed by, generally well-equipped with helmets and waterproof coats and shields made of wood and corrugated tin. Many of them were singing.

At noon we, too, were ready. Together with a group from Philadelphia we marched down the street to the construction site. Shortly before we had formed a circle, held hands, and prepared mentally for the coming confrontation with the police. A man from another group was giving out "anti-stress" pills. We were given dried fruit and then we left at 1 p.m. We passed the blockaders standing at the gates, they greeted us loudly and heartily. They knew where we were going and our plan of attack.

When we arrived at the West fence we found it well-guarded, as we expected, by heavily-armed state troopers who resembled the robots who protect Nazi assemblies in Germany, and public buildings and other property during demonstrations. They looked bored but alert, their body and facial attitude was brutal, and instilled fear in people. This figure is international, with the same appearance the world over.

Our attempts to tear down the fence with our grappling hooks failed. The cops were there immediately and grabbed the offenders, taking the hooks away from them and throwing them over the fence where workers from the plant picked them up. The same thing happened with our gas masks, shields and water; the police took them away from us and threw them over the fence. We couldn't respond because we didn't have weapons; this action had been declared non-violent. There were special peace patrols who saw to it that

no one took violent action. Helplessly we watched our material disappear over the fence within ten minutes. Suddenly a cop fell to the ground; by trying to get a hook over the fence another police man accidentally hit him in the neck with the hook. Immediately he was surrounded by his colleagues who carried him from the field.

The police were careful not to be too violent. And they weren't, by German standards. The cops from Seabrook were mostly mellow but the ones from out of state were much more brutal. In the meantime the cops prepared for their next move. Two cops with three machines that looked like something between a chain saw and machine gun appeared, and turned them on. About 100 media people filmed, photographed and recorded the following actions. These strange apparati were fog throwers, fog mixed with tear gas. The two cops walked along the rows of people and fogged the whole area with what is called "pepper fog", but the effect is minimal. They blew the fog directly into the faces of some people and tore off their gas masks, but it was ineffective because the people didn't leave. Half an hour later they ran out of the fog and the demonstrators made a cry of joy. Now the score was one to one. With those ridiculous weapons they could not beat us. Some of us were maced in the eyes but the first aid groups were on the spot with lemon juice to wash out the eyes of the injured.

Someone told me that there had been some arrests on the North gate; some people had been carried away and arrested. I went to the South gate where there was a lot of action. A mass of people were sitting directly in front of the gate and singing while constructing a barricade out of logs and boards, but the cops pushed the barricade away and the workers carried it off. The purpose of the barricade was to prevent anyone from entering or leaving.

Robert, from our affinity group told me that four members of our group had been injured and were in the hospital; it turned out that the injuries were not serious.

I went back to the South gate where a carnival atmosphere prevailed. The blockader groups sat close together, many people were standing around, and music was everywhere -- banjos, guitars and harmonicas, and people dancing. Four Hari Krishnas were chanting.

It was getting to be dusk and people returned to their various camps. The support group had prepared a healthy meal with lots of green stuff. The affinity groups summarized the day's activities. We had missed the goal of occupation completely, but nobody had a feeling of defeat. The concept of affinity groups had worked. The first aid groups had also worked. We had kept the guards busy. And we all knew that the construction bosses have serious money problems and want to finish the work as soon as possible. The helicopters patrolling from the air cost huge amounts of money, too.

The non-violent faction felt they were the winners of the day. They said the police had been violent and, therefore, they were the losers. Others saw the non-violent concept in a more critical light. By being non-violent in all circumstances we had lost all of our materials; and missed our goal.

the occupation. Should we keep being non-violent to this degree, or should we reconsider?

The issue of blockading came closer to our minds when people sang, "This land is your land."

SUNDAY, MAY 25

The affinity group met in a circle. We sang, "Where have all the flowers gone?" and "Blowing in the wind." The occupation didn't seem so important anymore, a successful blockade was enough. And we still wanted to keep the guards busy. There was a suggestion that we plan small guerilla actions against the fence at different points. We didn't exactly know what that heavy word "guerilla" meant. We decided to go into the forest, close to the fence and attack it. On the way we collected wood, boards, and tires for a barricade. Heavily equipped with this trash we marched along to the South gate. But there were too many people standing there and we couldn't get the stuff through. "We shall overcome" was sung which seemed quite absurd to me. Police were blockading the street in order to regulate traffic, so our spokesman asked an officer for permission to cross the street. I was shocked by this high degree of non-violence.

It was 12:30 when we went into the forest by walking along the shopping center and crossing a little marsh. We hit the fence. Every fifty feet there was a guard, some with dogs and walkie talkies. They came together immediately when we reached the fence and a truck manned by state troopers came along. Suddenly a group of these police came out of a little gate and approached; we ran away like rabbits. We drew back into the forest and had a meeting. Then without any warning a troop of camouflaged cops came running toward us. First we panicked and ran but then we remembered our agreement never to scatter when there was danger. We went together out of the forest and, indeed, they didn't hurt us. It could be seen on their faces full of hatred that they would have liked to smash us, especially here in the forest where there were no media people. But we walked quietly and sang. Finally, we reached the shopping center escorted by the 30 heavily armed cops. The concept of affinity had worked in this case.

But our group was completely divided, demoralized and afraid. Some in the group wanted to continue to keep the police busy and not show their fear. Very close to us in the forest there was a helicopter hovering in the air, something was happening and we wanted to go help people. But the pacifists didn't want anymore confrontations. The disadvantage of the affinity concept came drastically to the surface; loyalty to the group became more important than the action itself. We split up. The others went blockading, we returned to the forest. Constantly the helicopter blades were turning over the treetops; we kept the guards busy but that's all we accomplished

Again troopers appeared and escorted us out of the forest. At the South gate there was a big action. People working on the fence were bashed and maced. Ten cops ran after one man, from a neighboring affinity group, and arrested him. The crowd cried, "Let him go. Let him go." but without effect. Anger combined with the feeling of helplessness on our side; meanwhile the carnival went on on the other. People

sang, made music and danced. It was a strange scene, this colorful crowd before the stony faces of the cops with their long clubs, shapbolls spread out, red cold faces bringing fear and looking ridiculous at the same time. The police from Seabrook were much friendlier, they talked and asked us politely to leave the street. They sipped from our beverages or offered us some of theirs; they even laughed, they appeared to be human, not robots. Somehow I was angry about this constant singing and dancing. We were providing first class entertainment for the guards who could beat the shit out of us whenever they got the order.

All this was covered by the aggressive noise of helicopters. We calculated the cost of every hour they were in the air and it made us feel good.

I wonder about the old songs, but they're sung with freshness and euphoria: "This land is your land, this land is my land." Basically this generation and these people are very strongly connected with the American system. It was apparent to me on Saturday, at the fence, when the stars and bright stripes were held in rows. Black or even red flags were very scarce. The protesters indentify with this land, they want to live here without any thought of dropping out.

"I want to live in this country, I love every flower and tree, I want to live her till I'm ninety, It's the nukes that must go and not me." they sang. They are good patriots who don't want their land spoiled by nukes.

Meanwhile, it grew dark. And the blockader groups sat closer together with their backs turned to the guards. They were covered with plastic tarps in anticipation of being hosed. Behind the fence there was a rusted truck with a rusted water tank on the back, and a generator mumbling to itself. When I saw this monster I had to laugh outloud. Once in awhile workers pushed the throttle but nothing happened. Then the fuel for the generator ran out and everybody laughed. Suddenly a hundred troopers appeared, and then left. Most probably that was to make us nervous. The workers turned on the generator again and fumbled with the hoses but nothing happened. I returned to Freestate.

The old songs were sung. But also newer from Neil Young to Simon and Garfunkel to Joni Mitchell. But even this stuff is over ten years old. Once in awhile, someone would interrupt to ask for testimony of mistreatment at the hands of the cops. A woman recited a poem that ended in the refrain "Fuck you Amerika." Everyone shouted the chords loudly but then a young man stood up and said that he knew a woman in the neighborhood who could hear what was going on in our camp. And when we shouted "Fuck you Amerika" it could be bad for our image.

We had to have night guards for the camp; we were afraid of attacks from the police. Somebody dropped in and reported blockaders had been hosed; very quickly we collected dry clothes and a man disappeared with them into the darkness. When they sang, "Find the cost of freedom" I preferred going to bed.

MONDAY, MAY 26

In the middle of the night Mark, the arrested group member, came stumbling back into our camp; he had

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been released. Most of our group planned to return today, so we all drove to the beach and fell back into the sand to relax for awhile. Within the crowd of suntanning bodies we looked rather exotic.

Back in Seabrook I stood under a MacDonald's sign and waited for the others. A woman from a safety group came up to me and said it would be bad for our image if we loitered in the parking lots and suggested that I wait somewhere else. Someone who was staying on briefed me on the plan for the day: preparations for the blockade on Tuesday morning for the workers who would be returning, cleaning up Freestate, and the reformation of affinity groups to incorporate new people.

In our car the cassette recorder played the militant Grace Slick song reminiscent of 1970, "We are volunteers of America, volunteers of America..."

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ITALY

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT BARS VISIT BY LEFTIST ITALIAN PLAYWRIGHT

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Although widely acclaimed in his native Italy and many other European countries, playwright Dario Fo is little known in the United States. And the U.S. State Department is doing its best to make sure he stays that way. Just days before Fo was due to arrive in New York to take part in the fifth Festival of Italian Theater at the end of May, the State Department rejected visa applications from the playwright and his actress wife Franca Rame.

"Fo's record of performance with regard to the United States and our own interests is not good," a member of State's Italian desk explained. "He has never had a good word to say about us."

Italian activists familiar with Fo's work were angered but not particularly surprised by the action barring him from the U.S. "It was not an accident," commented one Italian leftist in New York. "He was supposed to have performed a 'Comic Mystery' about President Carter as an Oriental belly dancer going through the motions of the failed Iranian blitz to 'rescue the hostages.'"

While hardly in the tradition of Broadway theater, that performance would have been quite in keeping with the work that has won Fo a broad European following among both drama critics and workers, peasants and students who had never set foot in a theater before. Best known for his drama Mistero Buffo, Fo has regularly performed in occupied factories and at university sit-ins. His most important political plays include: "Accidental Death of an Anarchist and Other Subversives," written after a bombing by neo-fascists left 50 people dead in Milan in 1969 (an anarchist erroneously arrested for the blast died in police custody); "Moro's Trial," written after former Prime Minister Aldo Moro's abduction and killing by the Red Brigades; and "Knock, Knock Who's There? It's the Police!"

Fo won't be performing any of these works in the U.S. as long as the State Department has any say in the matter. But he may have material for a new "Comic Mystery" -- about a country that boasts of its commitment to the free exchange of ideas... except when, as one official said of Fo's visit, they are deemed "inappropriate at this time."

(#992)

June 6, 1980

more...

EDUCATION/CORPORATIONS

LARRY THE TALKING GARBAGE CAN & FRIENDS: BRINGING THE CORPORATE GOSPEL TO SCHOOL

by Eric Nadler

Liberation News Service

NEW YORK (LNS)--Remember those terrific grade school afternoons when your teacher screened a filmstrip about "The Magic of Metal Ore" or some such nonsense? You cheered when the lights went out. Anything to break up the regular routine.

Not surprisingly, the corporate hucksters who produced most of that pap are still at it--and for good reason. Sheila Harty, a Ralph Nader researcher, has just completed an exhaustive three-year probe of the thousands of free films and other promotional materials posing as educational guides. And her 190-page report ruefully notes that industry "propaganda"--full of ideological bias and blatant product advertising--continues to exploit the world's largest captive audience almost unchecked.

"The financial constraints on school budgets and the overload on faculty schedules have made teachers prime targets for corporate courtship," writes Harty. "Vested interests among Fortune 500 industrials, majority trade associations and electric utilities are inappropriate sources of objective educational materials. Their profit motives take advantage of educators' needs under the guise of public service."

Especially dangerous are the nutritional myths pushed upon impressionable youngsters. Some examples:

**"You can eat ice cream with your cereal if you still balance it into your day's meal plans."--from the Mr. Peanuts Guide to Nutrition, a booklet distributed by Standard Brands.

**We know our fondness for pickles represents a very natural craving of the human body for the complete nutritive elements which pickles contain."--from The Pickle: New Facts About An Old Friend, published by the Pickle Packers International Inc.

**Cigarettes and civilization, the two seem to go together...Many of the common sailors years ago were quick to learn that tobacco satisfies a human need."--from The American Tobacco Story, a glossy booklet available from the American Tobacco Co.

**And this gem from The Story of Soft Drinks, distributed by the National Soft Drink Association, "Water is another important ingredient of a balanced diet...we...need to drink 5-6 glasses a day. Soft drinks are about 90% purified water. And soft drinks' good taste quenches thirst and encourages liquid intake."

How about this "breakfast bars" recipe in General Mills' Food As Children See It booklet? ½ cup of non-fat dry milk, ½ cup of butter, 32 large marshmallows, ½ cup of peanut butter, ¼ cup of orange-flavored breakfast drink, one cup of raisins, four coups of cheerios.

As if rotting teeth and destroying stomach linings weren't enough, Mr. Peanut's Guide to Physical Fitness (last updated in 1967 but still distributed to schools) gives us this corporate view of appropriate sex role models: "Boys need to be physically fit so they can compete in sports and later can compete in soccer. Girls need to be physically fit because it makes them more attractive."

Power companies are not ignoring the agile young minds in the classroom either. They're busy churning out movies, books, and comics pushing the nuclear lifestyle.

Exxon, in the adorable Mickey Mouse and Goofy Explore Energy comic book, distributed throughout the New Mexico school system, extols the virtues of nuclear power without discussing such troublesome aspects as radioactive wastes or meltdowns.

Northern States Power Company and the Atom comic book calls nuclear energy "completely practical." It continues, "And there are a lot more advantages to nuclear fuel! It's clean to use. There is no combustion, no burning of any kind! And get this--there is no storage problems when this wonderful fuel is used.... Man's been living with nuclear reactors for quite a few years now and there hasn't been a single death or injury from radiation on a commercial nuclear power plant."

But standing head and shoulders above the rest of this glut HAS to be the New York State Electric and Gas Company's inspired "Larry the Talking Garbage Can"--an actual trash basket fitted with a tape recorder and colored light bulbs which is wheeled out on stage to tell elementary school kids about the benefits of nuclear power and the problems with solar and wind energy systems.

Had enough?

How about Steel and America: A New Look, starring Donald Duck, who describes the steel industry as the "safest" of them all without mentioning the high incidence of cancer or other cases of occupational disease and injury?

For blatant advertising, there is The Story of Luggage: From Caveman to Spaceman, a film narrated by Astronaut Scott Carpenter, or The Story of Meat produced by the American Meat Industry.

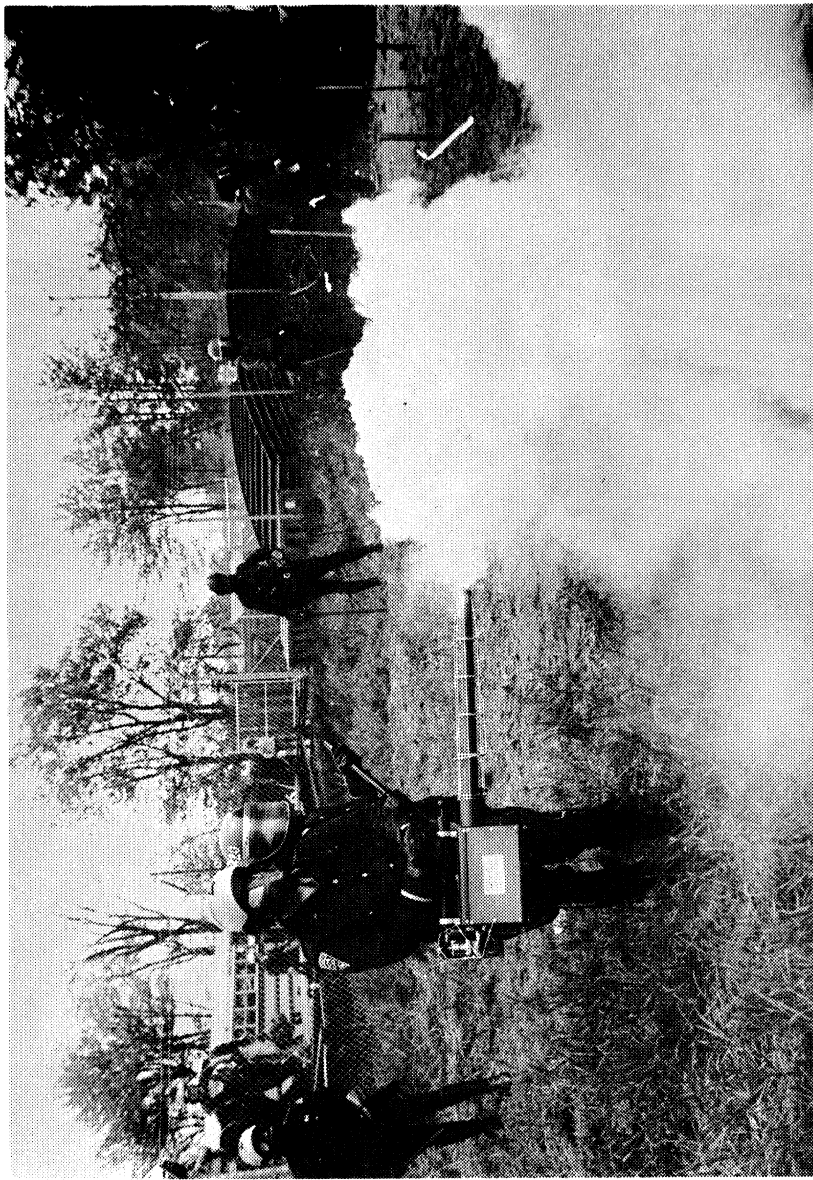
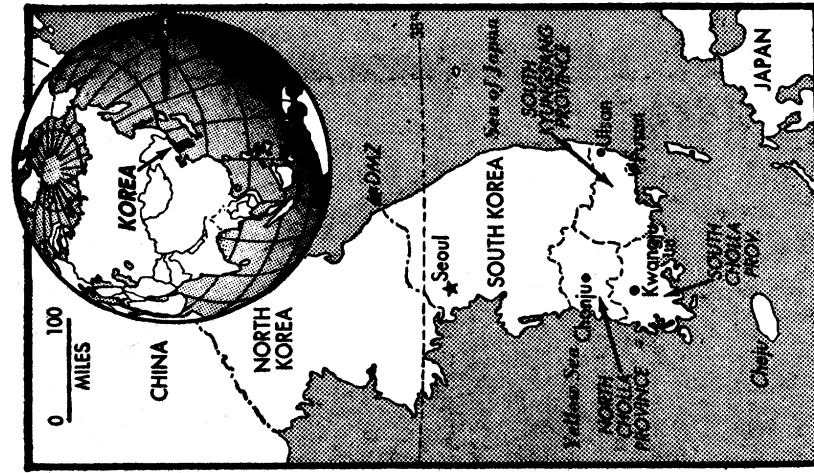
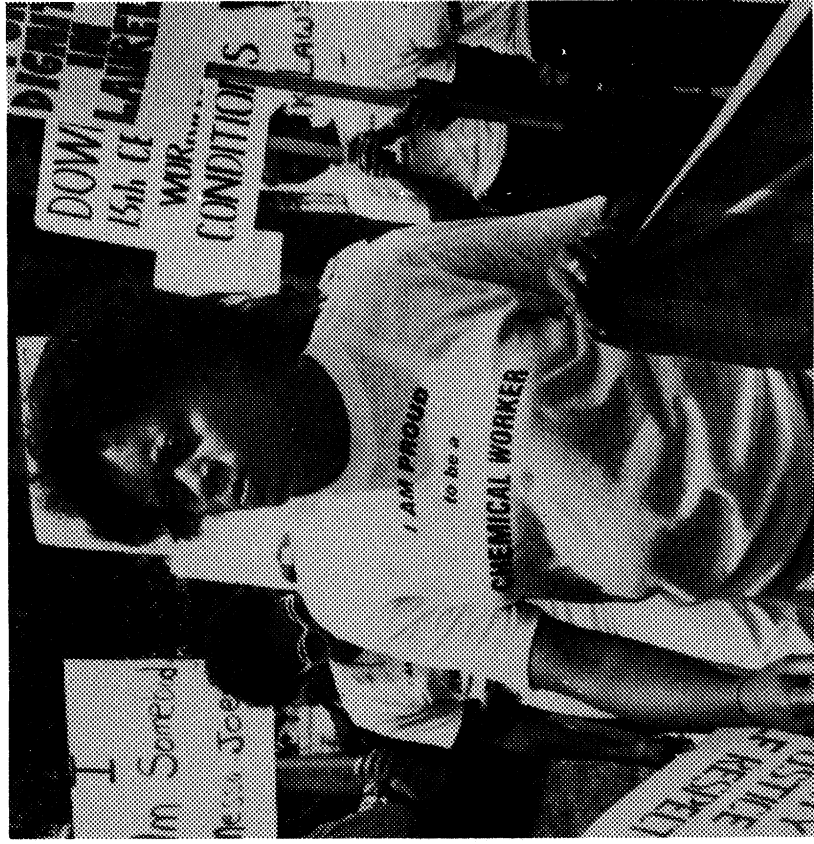
The list is endless.

How widespread is the use of these materials? The National Education Association's most recent questionnaire on the subject in 1977 revealed that more than 50 percent of its members use such corporate handouts at one time or another.

As a Brooklyn junior high school teacher succinctly told researcher Harty: "Teachers are so overwhelmed with their total job that they welcome anything that will aid them in making their subject area more attractive to the students, easier to grasp and save the teacher time in making up original material. If an industry can offer all of those things, a teacher is just grateful--to hell with where it comes from."

-30- (See #991 for graphics.)

June 6, 1980 End of copy--on to graphics



#992

Ellen Chinn, one of the leaders of the workers on strike in Laurel, Mississippi.

CREDIT: Carolyn Mugar/ICWU/LNS

SEE STORY PAGE #3

#992

Police using pepperfog throwers at the Seabrook action over Memorial Day weekend.

CREDIT: Werner Wille/LNS

SEE STORY PAGE 8

#992

Clara Fraser-radical socialist feminist; co-founder of Radical Women and the Freedom Socialist Party, she is currently involved in a law suit against Seattle City Light testing that section of Seattle's Fair Employment Practices Ordinance which provides for freedom from job discrimination on the basis of political ideology.

CREDIT: Doug Barnes/LNS SEE STORY PAGE 2

#992

First Aid is administered to a pepperfog victim at Seabrook.

#992

LOWER CENTER RIGHT CREDIT: Militant/LNS

SEE STORY PAGE 1

CREDIT: Werner Wille/LNS

SEE STORY PAGE 8

#992

LOWER RIGHT CREDIT: Workers World/LNS

SEE STORY PAGE 4